

Ser. No. 10/081,254
Response to Office Action of 24 May 2004
Atty Docket 6523-54

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A reinforcing bracket for a trailer frame that bolts onto the trailer frame at a junction between two frame members, comprising:
 - a first side adapted to bolt to a first frame member,
 - a second side extending at an angle from the first side and adapted to bolt to a second frame member, and
 - a third side adapted to bolt to a flange of one of said frame members, wherein:
said first side and said second side each have an inner surface and an outer surface;
said first side and said second side each include a plurality of dimples, each dimple forming a recess in said inner surface and a projection on said outer surface and having at least one aperture therein; and wherein,
said third side is at least partially bilaminar, includes at least one aperture.
2. (original) The bracket as described in claim 1, wherein said first side has two dimples.
3. (original) The bracket as described in claim 2, wherein said two dimples are substantially vertically stacked.
4. (original) The bracket as described in claim 2, wherein said second side has two dimples.
5. (original) The bracket as described in claim 4, wherein said bracket is adapted to fasten to the trailer frame at an angled junction of an A-frame member and a cross-member.

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6. (original) The bracket as described in claim 4, wherein said dimples in said first side are substantially vertically stacked, and said dimples in said second side are substantially vertically stacked.
7. (original) The bracket as described in claim 6, wherein said bracket is adapted to fasten to the trailer frame at an angled junction of an A-frame member and a cross-member.
8. (original) The bracket as described in claim 1, wherein said second side has two dimples.
9. (original) The bracket as described in claim 8, wherein said two dimples are substantially vertically stacked.
10. (currently amended) The bracket as described in claim 1, wherein said third side includes an aperture, is substantially bilaminar,
11. (original) The bracket as described in claim 1, wherein the angle between the first side and the second side is not ninety degrees.
12. (original) The bracket as described in claim 11, wherein the angle between the first side and the second side is greater than ninety degrees.
13. (original) The bracket as described in claim 11, wherein the angle between the first side and the second side is less than ninety degrees.
14. (previously presented) A reinforcing bracket for a trailer frame that bolts onto said trailer frame at a junction between an A-frame member and a cross-member, comprising:

a first side,

a second side extending at an angle from the first side, and

an at least partially bilaminar third side having a first layer extending from the first side and a second layer extending from the second side, wherein:

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said first side comprises a plurality of dimples, each dimple having an aperture therein;
said second side comprises a plurality of dimples, each dimple having an aperture therein;
and
said third side includes at least one aperture.

15. (Currently Amended) A bolt-together trailer frame comprising:
at least two longitudinal members,
at least two cross-members attached to said at least two longitudinal members by bolts,
two A-frame members, each having one end fastened to one of said at least two
longitudinal members by bolts, the other ends fastened to each other by bolts, wherein angles
formed between said A-frame members and a cross-member are not ninety degrees, and
a bracket fastening reinforcing the junction between an A-frame member to a cross
member, the bracket comprising:

a first side,
a second side extending at an angle from the first side, and
a third side extending from an end of the first side and an end of the second side,
wherein:

said first side and said second side each have an inner surface and an outer
surface;
said first side and said second side each comprise a plurality of projections on said
outer surface; and
said third side includes at least one aperture.

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16. (currently amended) The trailer frame as described in claim 15, wherein said first side of the bracket and said second side of the bracket each comprise a plurality of dimples, each dimple forming a recess in the inner surface thereof that corresponds to one of the projections on the outer surface, each dimple and having an aperture therein.

17. (original) The trailer frame as described in claim 15, wherein said third side of the bracket is substantially bilaminar.

18. (original) The trailer frame as described in claim 15, wherein the angle between the first side of the bracket and the second side of the bracket is greater than ninety degrees.

19. (original) The trailer frame as described in claim 15, wherein the angle between the first side of the bracket and the second side of the bracket is less than ninety degrees.

20. (original) The trailer frame as described in claim 15, wherein at least one of the A-frame member and the cross member have a flange extending therefrom and the third side of the bracket is fastened to the flange.

21. (previously presented) A bolt-together trailer frame comprising:

at least two longitudinal members,

at least two cross-members attached to the at least two longitudinal members by bolts,

wherein at least one cross-member has a flange extending therefrom,

two A-frame members, each having one end fastened to one of said at least two longitudinal members by bolts, the other ends fastened to each other by bolts, wherein angles formed between said A-frame members and cross-member are not ninety degrees, and

a bracket fastening one of the A-frame members to one of the cross members, the bracket comprising:

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a first side,

a second side extending from the first side, and

a third side extending substantially perpendicularly from the first side and the second side, wherein:

the first side includes a plurality of dimples, each dimple having an aperture therein;

the second side includes a plurality of dimples, each dimple having an aperture therein;

the third side is substantially bilaminar and includes at least one aperture;

the third side is fastened to the flange of the cross-member; and

the bracket dimples are in nesting engagement with corresponding dimples in an adjacent A-frame member and an adjacent cross member.

22. (New) The bracket of claim 1, wherein the third side comprises a first layer extending from the first side and a second layer extending from the second side.

23. (New) The trailer frame of claim 15, wherein the projections are in nesting engagement with corresponding recesses in an adjacent A-frame member and an adjacent cross member.